

From: Matthew M. Small
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2023 9:06 AM
To: Martin LaLonde
Subject: liquor liability

Hi Martin,

My name is Matt Small and I am the owner of Manhattan Pizza & Pub in Burlington. I have been advised to contact you regarding liquor liability insurance. This is a very serious and scary issue for me and my business. Not only is it out of control expensive, it is also challenging for me and other businesses to stay open due to unavailability of policies. If we do not urgently figure out a solution. there is a real risk of going out of business. Myself as well as other local small business owners would greatly appreciate your help!

- Support H.288 with a full move to liability on negligence rather than strict liability, a partial move will not change our access to liquor liability insurance. This to negligence will not impact public safety or reduce the vigilance of businesses and the department of liquor and liability's oversight on underage of afterhours drinking. Liquor liability insurance is an important piece of consumer protection, and the industry needs to have the ability to purchase it.
- Remove landlords from the liability chain
- Allow for rule making or a study for any mandate that all bars and restaurants obtain liquor liability insurance.

Thank you,

Matt

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Matthew M. Small
M.M. Small & Co., LLC
dba Manhattan Pizza & Pub